

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method comprising:
2 receiving information about a patient, the information about the patient including
3 diagnosis information based upon a diagnosis of the patient performed by a health care
4 provider;
5 performing a query function to retrieve from a database a list of data sources
6 based upon the received information about the patient; and
7 generating one or more documents containing the list of data sources retrieved
8 from the database.
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1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the diagnosis information comprises one or more
2 diagnosis codes indicating one or more conditions of the patient based upon the
3 diagnosis.
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1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the one or more diagnosis codes comprise codes
2 according to the International Classification of Disease (ICD).
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1 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the diagnosis information comprises one or more
2 descriptions describing the patient's conditions or problems based upon the diagnosis
3 performed by the health care provider.
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1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the information about the patient further
2 comprises information selected from the group consisting of the patient's personal
3 information, prescription information, laboratory information, procedures information,
4 materials and supplies information and injection information.

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1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein a data source is referenced by an address
2 corresponding to a location where the data source resides.

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1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the address corresponding to the location where
2 the data source resides comprises a Uniform Resource Locator (URL).

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1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein performing the query function comprises:
2 generating a set of queries containing query criteria based on the received
3 information about the patient; and
4 executing the set of queries to retrieve from the database the list of data sources
5 matching the query criteria.

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1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein generating the set of queries comprises:
2 selecting a set of existing queries that correspond to the received information
3 about the patient.

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1 10. The method of claim 8 wherein generating the set of queries comprises:
2 constructing a set of queries based on the information received.

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- 1 11. The method of claim 10 wherein constructing comprises:
2 determining one or more diagnosis identifiers from the information received.
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- 1 12. The method of claim 11 wherein a diagnosis identifier corresponds to a diagnosis
2 code.
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- 1 13. The method of claim 11 wherein a diagnosis identifier corresponds to a diagnosis
2 description.
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- 1 14. The method of claim 11 wherein the one or more diagnosis identifiers are
2 included in the diagnosis information received.
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- 1 15. The method of claim 11 wherein the one or more diagnosis identifiers are derived
2 from the diagnosis information received.
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- 1 16. The method of claim 11 further comprising:
2 determining additional diagnosis identifiers that are equivalent to the one or more
3 diagnosis identifiers included in the diagnosis information received.
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- 1 17. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 allowing the patient to access the one or more documents via a computer network.
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- 1 18. The method of claim 17 further comprising:

2 allowing the patient to provide feedback or comments with respect to the
3 information contained in the one or more documents.

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1 19. The method of claim 18 wherein the computer network is selected from the group
2 consisting of a local area network, a wide area network, and the Internet.

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1 20. The method of claim 8 wherein the query criteria include contextual information
2 applicable to the diagnosis information received.

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1 21. A database of information comprising:
2 a first code corresponding to one aspect of a patient's health;
3 a list of one or more definitions corresponding to the first code; and
4 a first list of data sources obtained based upon the one or more definitions.

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1 22. The database of claim 21 wherein the one or more definitions are used to identify
2 a set of documents from which the data sources are selected.

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1 23. The database of claim 26 further comprising:
2 a first set of queries containing query criteria based on the one or more definitions
3 of the first code.

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1 24. The database of claim 23 wherein the query criteria further comprise contextual
2 information applicable to the first code.

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- 1 25. The database of claim 23 wherein the queries are used to identify the set of
2 documents from which the data sources are selected.
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- 1 26. The database of claim 21 wherein the first code is a diagnosis code indicating a
2 condition or a problem with respect to the patient's health.
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- 1 27. The database of claim 21 wherein the first code is a code according to the
2 International Classification of Disease (ICD).
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- 1 28. The database of claim 21 wherein the first code is a code according to the Current
2 Procedural Terminology (CPT).
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- 1 29. The database of claim 21 wherein the first code is a code according to the HCFA
2 Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS).
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- 1 30. The database of claim 21 wherein the first code is a code according to the READ
2 code classification.
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- 1 31. The database of claim 21 wherein a data source is referenced by an address
2 corresponding to a location where the data source resides.
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- 1 32. The database of claim 31 wherein the address corresponding to the location where
2 the data source resides comprises a Uniform Resource Locator (URL).
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1 33. A method of developing a database of information, comprising:
2 generating one or more queries based upon a code;
3 identifying one or more documents based upon the one or more queries;
4 performing a selection process to select a subset of documents from the one or
5 more documents identified based upon a set of selection criteria; and
6 storing the subset of documents in the database.

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1 34. The method of claim 33 wherein the code is an International Classification of
2 Disease (ICD) code.

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1 35. The method of claim 33 wherein the one or more queries are based upon a first
2 definition of the code according to a specific classification scheme.

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1 36. The method of claim 33 wherein the one or more queries are based upon one or
2 more additional definitions of the code.

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1 37. The method of claim 33 wherein identifying the one or more documents
2 comprises:
3 identifying a list of databases on the World Wide Web (WWW); and
4 searching the databases using the one or more queries to identify the one or more
5 documents that match the query criteria specified in the one or more queries.

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1 38. A system comprising:

2 a first database to store multiple lists of content links, each list corresponding to a
3 specific code; and
4 a first server to receive information about a patient from one or more sources, said
5 information about the patient including one or more codes, the first server to retrieve
6 from the first database one or more lists of content links based upon the one or more
7 codes received, the first server to generate one or more documents containing the one or
8 more list of content links retrieved from the first database.

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1 39. The system of claim 38 wherein the one or more documents generated are stored
2 in a second database.

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1 40. The system of claim 38 wherein the one or more documents are made accessible
2 to the patient via a computer network.

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1 41. The system of claim 38 wherein the computer network is the Internet.

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1 42. The system of claim 38 wherein the first server comprises:
2 logic to receive the information about the patient from the one or more sources;
3 logic to generate a set of queries based upon one or more definitions
4 corresponding to the one or more codes received; and
5 logic to execute the set of queries to retrieve from the first database the one or
6 more list of content links that correspond to the set of queries.

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1 43. The system of claim 38 wherein each list of content links stored in the first
2 database is identified using a set of queries generated from one or more definitions
3 associated with the respective code.

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1 44. The system of claim 38 wherein the set of queries is used to search one or more
2 databases on the World Wide Web to identify a potential list of content links.

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1 45. The system of claim 38 wherein the potential list of content links is used to select
2 the corresponding list of content links that is stored in the first database.

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1 46. A machine-readable medium comprising instructions which, when executed by a
2 machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

3 receiving information about a patient, the information about the patient including
4 diagnosis information based upon a diagnosis of the patient performed by a health care
5 provider;

6 performing a query function to retrieve from a database a list of data sources
7 based upon the received information about the patient; and

8 generating one or more documents containing the list of data sources retrieved
9 from the database.

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1 47. The machine-readable medium of claim 46 wherein the diagnosis information
2 comprises one or more diagnosis codes indicating one or more conditions of the patient
3 based upon the diagnosis.

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1 48. The machine-readable medium of claim 46 wherein the diagnosis information
2 comprises one or more descriptions describing the patient's conditions or problems based
3 upon the diagnosis performed by the health care provider.

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1 49. The machine-readable medium of claim 48 wherein performing the query
2 function comprises:

3 generating a set of queries containing query criteria based on the received
4 information about the patient; and

5 executing the set of queries to retrieve from the database the list of data sources
6 matching the query criteria.

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1 50. A machine-readable medium comprising instructions which, when executed by a
2 machine, cause the machine to perform the following:

3 generating one or more queries based upon a code;

4 identifying one or more documents based upon the one or more queries;

5 performing a selection process to select a subset of documents from the one or
6 more documents identified based upon a set of selection criteria; and

7 storing the subset of documents in a database.

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1 51. The machine-readable medium of claim 50 wherein the code is an International
2 Classification of Disease (ICD) code.

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1 52. The machine-readable medium of claim 51 wherein the one or more queries are
2 based upon a first definition of the code.

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1 53. The machine-readable medium of claim 52 wherein the one or more queries are
2 based upon one or more additional definitions of the code.

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1 54. The machine-readable medium of claim 50 wherein identifying the one or more
2 documents comprises:

3 identifying a list of databases on the World Wide Web (WWW); and

4 searching the databases using the one or more queries to identify the one or more
5 documents that match the query criteria specified in the one or more queries.

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1 55. A database comprising:

2 a list of patients; and

3 for each patient in the list, a set of documents each generated based upon
4 information received from a healthcare provider following the respective patient's visit to
5 said healthcare provider, said set of documents being accessible by said respective patient
6 via a computer network.

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1 56. The database of claim 55 wherein the information received from said healthcare
2 provider comprises one or more codes, said one or more codes being used to retrieve one
3 or more lists of data sources to be included in the respective document for the respective
4 patient.